

offering nutritious and wholesome food to our children.

Furthermore, I am concerned about the cost of wasting food in our schools. Food is essential nourishment for everyone, and I support policies that would allow the Houston Independent School District [HISD] to design a nutritional program. In the HISD school system, schools can provide students with nutritious meals while giving students food that they like to eat, and then designing a program to allow the Houston schools to donate the extra food to feed the homeless. I encourage the formation of such a program by HISD and I encourage other districts to adopt this innovative and beneficial program. Hunger in America warrants continued efforts to stomp out hunger.

In closing, I urge all of my colleagues to vote in support of the Healthy Meals for Children Act.

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, in the 53 years since the Federal Government began supporting lunch programs in schools, 25 laws have been passed by Congress making changes in the form and goals of Federal school lunch assistance. The history of school lunches is an interesting one, with its beginnings in World War II and depression-era programs to help the farmer. The war years also saw Federal support for lunch programs justified by the growing numbers of women in the work force.

When I first came to the House of Representatives, 23 years ago, public schools provided a basic lunch to students. In the 1970's Congress began to focus on the operational needs of school lunch programs. Congress enacted a series of laws that established guaranteed cash and commodity reimbursements for each school lunch served and inflation adjustments in these reimbursements. This so-called performance funding feature was designed to encourage program expansion by assuring schools an amount of Federal funding they would receive. Later, Congress established uniform meal reimbursements for all lunches served and varied the financial support for different types of lunches according to their nutritional content.

Over time, educators showed us that students learned better, behaved better, and were more attentive when they weren't hungry. Social services providers have shown us that the lunch children received in school was the most nutritious meal of the day for many children. Breakfasts are now offered in many communities before the school day begins.

In fiscal year 1995, a national total of over 4.2 billion lunches were served under the School Lunch Program. Of these, 1.8 billion were served free, and 300 million lunches were served at a reduced price of no more than 40 cents each. In Illinois alone, a total of 156 million lunches were served—62 million free and 9 million at a reduced rate.

Over the years Congress continued to support school lunches by providing commodities to supplement the local education agency's lunch menu. Also over the years, the ideas of dietary requirements have changed. The Healthy Meals for Healthy Americans Act of 1994, Public Law 103-448, addressed concerns raised by the 1993 school nutrition dietary assessment study concerning levels of fat, sodium, and carbohydrates in meals served under the School Lunch Program.

A 1994 law, Public Law 103-448, established a new set of nutritional requirements for

school lunch programs, largely to reduce the amount of fat content in the lunches served to our schoolchildren every schoolday. This bill under consideration today, H.R. 2066, the Healthy Meals for Children Act, will provide increased flexibility for schools to meet the standards required for reimbursement. This bill was designed to clear up confusion about what nutritional standards may be used in order to comply with Federal guidelines, and will make it easier for schools to meet new dietary guidelines for school lunch programs.

American schoolchildren are fortunate to have national standards that are available to be used to assure the families and children that the food they are provided in school will be safe, healthful, and nutritionally beneficial to their growing minds and bodies. I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. GOODLING] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2066, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 2066, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

REREFERRAL OF H.R. 3387, J. PHIL CAMPBELL, SENIOR NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION CENTER

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Resources be discharged from further consideration of the bill, H.R. 3387, to designate the Southern Piedmont Conservation Research Center located at 1420 Experimental Station Road in Watkinsville, GA, as the J. Phil Campbell, Senior Natural Resource Conservation Center, and that the bill be rereferred to the Committee on Agriculture.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

SELMA TO MONTGOMERY NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1129) to amend the National Trails Systems Act to designate the route from Selma to Montgomery as a national historic trail, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1129

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in

Congress assembled, That section 5(a) of the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(a)) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new paragraph:

"() The Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail, consisting of 54 miles of city streets and United States Highway 80 from Brown Chapel A.M.E. Church in Selma to the State Capitol Building in Montgomery, Alabama, traveled by voting rights advocates during March 1965 to dramatize the need for voting rights legislation, as generally described in the report of the Secretary of the Interior prepared pursuant to subsection (b) of this section entitled 'Selma to Montgomery' and dated April 1993. Maps depicting the route shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. The trail shall be administered in accordance with this Act, including section 7(h). The Secretary of the Interior, acting through the National Park Service, which shall be the lead Federal agency, shall cooperate with other Federal, State and local authorities to preserve historic sites along the route, including (but not limited to) the Edmund Pettus Bridge and the Brown Chapel A.M.E. Church."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah [Mr. HANSEN] and the gentleman from New Mexico [Mr. RICHARDSON] will each be recognized for 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah [Mr. HANSEN].

(Mr. HANSEN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1129 designates the route from Selma to Montgomery, AL, as a national historic trail. This route is the site of one of the most significant protest demonstrations of the modern civil rights movements, which led directly to the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. The National Park Service, pursuant to a previous act of Congress, has studied the trail and found that it merits designation as a national historic trail. It is important to note that the National Park Service felt the events which took place at this site were so significant that it warranted waiving the customary 50-year waiting period for designation of historic sites.

The language including in the bill by the subcommittee makes it clear that by enactment of this legislation, Congress will not be establishing the Selma to Montgomery Trail as a new unit of the National Park System. Only 2 of the approximately 15 congressionally designated trails are currently units of the park system. However, the definition of what constitutes a unit of the park system is so unclear, that the other trails could be easily added at a later date by administrative action. In this case, there are no Federal lands in the area, and it makes good sense of the NPS to work with other co-operators in the administration of this trail. It is important to point out that in making this amendment, it is not my intention that this trail should receive any less financial or administrative support than any other trail where the